CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A session state method allowing session states to be maintained by sites that run on

2   multiple, load-balanced servers by providing persistent session data distributable across one

3   or more machines over a communications network, comprising:

4   recalling session information based on a current and corresponding session key upon

5   traversal of a web form segment;

6   obtaining user provided information via the web form segment;

7   updating the session information based on the current and corresponding session key;

8   validating the user provided information;

9   posting the user provided information to an information server if the user provided

10   information is validated.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to a cookie.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to a cache.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to a session server.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to an information server.

1   6. A session state system allowing session states to be maintained by sites that run on

2   multiple, load-balanced servers by providing persistent session data distributable across one

3   or more machines over a communications network, comprising:

4   means for recalling session information based on a current and corresponding session key

5   upon traversal of a web form segment;

6   means for obtaining user provided information via the web form segment;

7   means for updating the session information based on the current and corresponding

8   session key;

9   means for validating the user provided information; and

10   means for posting the user provided information to an information server if the user

11   provided information is validated.

1   7. The system of claim 6, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to a cookie.

1   8. The system of claim 6, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to a cache.

1   9. The system of claim 6, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to a session server.

1   10. The system of claim 6, wherein the updated session information based on the current and

2   corresponding session key is updated to an information server.

1   11. A computer session state program stored on a computer readable medium, the session

2   state program to allow session states to be maintained by sites that run on multiple, load-

3   balanced servers by providing persistent session data distributable across one or more

4   machines over a communications network, comprising:

5   a module to recall session information based on a current and corresponding session key

6   upon traversal of a web form segment;

7   a module to obtain user provided information via the web form segment;

8   a module to update the session information based on the current and corresponding

9   session key;

10   a module to validate the user provided information; and

11   a module to post the user provided information to an information server if the user

12 provided information is validated.

1   12. The medium of claim 11, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to a cookie.

1   13. The medium of claim 11, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to a cache.

1   14. The medium of claim 11, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to a session server.

1   15. The medium of claim 11, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to an information server.

1   16. A session state apparatus to allow session states to be maintained by sites that run on

2   multiple, load-balanced servers by providing persistent session data distributable across one

3   or more machines over a communications network, comprising:

4   a processor;

5   a storage medium, communicatively connected to the processor; and

6   a program, stored in the storage medium, comprising:

7   a module to recall session information based on a current and corresponding session

8   key upon traversal of a web form segment;

9   a module to obtain user provided information via the web form segment;

10   a module to update the session information based on the current and corresponding

11   session key;

12   a module to validate the user provided information;

13   a module to post the user provided information to an information server if the user

14   provided information is validated.

1   17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to a cookie.

1   18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to a cache.

1   19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to a session server.

1   20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the updated session information based on the current

2   and corresponding session key is updated to an information server.

1   21. A method, comprising:

2   generating a user session key;

3   providing session information; and

4   associating session information with the session key.

5   22. The method of claim 21, further comprising storing the user session key.

1   23. The method of claim 22, further comprising storing the user session information.

1   24. The method of claim 23, wherein storing the user session information includes an

2   association with the user session key.

1   25. The method of claim 23, wherein storing the user session key includes an association

2   with the information.

1   26. A system, comprising:

2   means for generating a user session key;

3   means for providing session information;

4   means for associating session information with the session key.

5   27. The system of claim 26, further comprising a means for storing the user session key.

1   28. The system of claim 26, further comprising a means for storing the user session

2   information.

1   29. The system of claim 28, wherein storing the user session information includes an

2   association with the user session key.

1 30. The system of claim 27, wherein storing the user session key includes an association with

2 the information.

1 31. A computer program stored on a computer readable medium, the program, comprising:

2   a module to generate a user session key;

3   a module to provide session information;

4   a module to associate session information with the session key.

5 32. The medium of claim 31, further comprising a module to store the user session key.

1 33. The medium of claim 31, further comprising a module to store the user session

2 information.

1 34. The medium of claim 33, wherein the module to store the user session information

2 includes an association with the user session key.

1 35. The medium of claim 32, wherein the module to store the user session key includes an

2 association with the information.

1 36. An apparatus, comprising:

2   a processor;

3   a storage medium, communicatively connected to the processor; and

4   a program, stored in the storage medium, comprising:

5   a module to generate a user session key;

6   a module to provide session information;

7   a module to associate session information with the session key.

8 37. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising a module to store the user session key.

1   38. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising a module to store the user session

2   information.

1   39. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the module to store the user session information

2   includes an association with the user session key.

1   40. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the module to store the user session key includes an

2   association with the information.

1   41. A method, comprising:

2   generating a user session key;

3   providing the user session key;

4   storing the user session key.

1   42. A system, comprising:

2   means for generating a user session key;

3   means for providing the user session key;

4   means for storing the user session key.

1   43. A computer program stored on a computer readable medium, the program, comprising:

2   a module to generate a user session key;

3   a module to provide the user session key;

4   a module to store the user session key.

1   44. An apparatus, comprising:

2   a processor;

3   a storage medium, communicatively connected to the processor; and

4   a program, stored in the storage medium, comprising:

5   a module to generate a user session key;

6   a module to provide the user session key;

7   a module to store the user session key.

1   45. A method, comprising:

2   providing session information based on a current corresponding session key;

3   storing provided session information.

1   46. The method of claim 45, further comprising recalling of session information specified by

2   traversal.

1   47. The method of claim 45, wherein storage of the provided session information includes a

2   user session key.

1   48. The method of claim 45, further comprising verifying of provided session information.

1   49. A system, comprising:

2   means for providing session information based on a current corresponding session key;

3   means for storing provided session information.

1   50. The system of claim 49, further comprising a means for recalling of session information

2   specified by traversal.

1   51. The system of claim 49, wherein storage of the provided session information includes a

2   user session key.

1   52. The system of claim 49, further comprising a means for verifying of provided session

2   information.

1   53. A computer program stored on a computer readable medium, the program, comprising:

2   a module to provide session information based on a current corresponding session key;

3   a module to store provided session information.

1   54. The medium of claim 53, further comprising a module to recall session information

2   specified by traversal.

1   55. The medium of claim 53, wherein storage of the provided session information includes a

2   user session key.

1   56. The medium of claim 53, further comprising a module to verify of provided session

2   information.

1   57. An apparatus, comprising:

2   a processor;

3   a storage medium, communicatively connected to the processor; and

4   a program, stored in the storage medium, comprising:

5   a module to provide session information based on a current corresponding session

6   key;

7   a module to store provided session information.

1   58. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising a module to recall session information

2   specified by traversal.

1   59. The apparatus of claim 57, wherein storage of the provided session information includes

2   a user session key.

1   60. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising a module to verify of provided session

2   information.